

## **Español Mundial Chapter 7**

### **REVISION NOTES**

#### 1. Negatives

To make a verb negative in Spanish, “no” is added before the verb:

E.g. I eat – (yo) como  
I don't eat – (yo) **no** como

<b>Spanish</b>	<b>English</b>
Nada	Nothing
Nadie	Nobody
Nunca	Never
Ni...ni	Neither...nor
Tampoco	Neither

#### **Position of negative words:**

**Nadie** (nobody) and **nunca** (never) have two options:

- (a) After the negated verb:           **No** va **nadie** al museo.  
*Nobody goes to the museum.*
- No** comemos **nunca** en el colegio.  
*We never eat in school.*
- (b) Before the verb (replacing “no”): **Nadie** va al museo.  
*Nobody goes to the museum.*
- Nunca** comemos en el colegio.  
*We never eat in school.*

**Ni...ni** (neither...nor) have similar options, but these may be determined by emphasis or where two contrasting verbs are used (see (b) below):

- (a) After the negated verb:           **No** me gustan **ni** las ciencias **ni** las lenguas.  
*I don't like sciences or languages.*
- (b) Before the verb (replacing “no”): **Ni** habla **ni** escucha.  
*He neither speaks nor listens.*

On the other hand, **nada** (nothing) always follows option (a) above<sup>1</sup>:

**No sé nada.**  
*I don't know anything.*

---

<sup>1</sup> Exceptions may be found in poetical Spanish: see, for example, “Otoño” by Manuel Machado.

**Ni** (nor) can be used on its own (without the first “ni”) to extend a negative sentence:

E.g. **No** puedo hacerlo, **ni** quiero hacerlo.  
I can't do it, nor do I want to do it.

**Tampoco** (neither) is basically the negative form of “también” (too). Compare the following sentences:

Me gusta ir de compras – yo también.  
*I like going shopping – me too.*

**No** me gusta ir de compras – yo **tampoco**.  
*I don't like going shopping – neither do I.*

### **Combining multiple negative words:**

Study the table below (*libro de ejercicios, page 57*):

<b>Spanish</b>	<b>English</b>
Carlos no habla	Carlos doesn't speak
Carlos no habla mucho	Carlos doesn't speak much
Nadie habla con Carlos	Nobody speaks to Carlos
Carlos no habla con nadie	Carlos doesn't speak to anyone
Carlos nunca habla	Carlos never speaks
Carlos nunca habla con nadie	Carlos never speaks to anyone
Carlos nunca dice nada	Carlos never says anything
Nadie dice nada de Carlos	Nobody says anything about Carlos
Carlos nunca dice nada de nadie	Carlos never says anything about anyone

## 2. Vocabulary for restaurant bookings

<b>Spanish</b>	<b>English</b>
Una mesa para dos	A table for two
En el rincón	In the corner
En la terraza	On the terrace
De primer plato / de primero	For starters
Para el plato principal	For the main course
De postre	For dessert
Para beber	To drink
(Eso) es todo	That's all
La cuenta por favor	The bill please

## 3. Expressing inequalities

**Más de** and **más que** mean “more than”; **menos de** and **menos que** mean “less than”.

Here are the rules:

(a) Use “de” with numbers:

Tiene más **de** 20 años.  
*He is older than 20.*

Cuesta menos **de** 500 euros.  
*It costs less than 500 euros.*

(b) Use “que” with comparisons:

Como más **que** mi hermano.  
*I eat more than my brother.*

Habla menos **que** su hermana.  
*He speaks less than his sister.*

(c) “que” can be used with adjectives too:

Es más alta **que** su hermana.  
*She is taller than her sister.*

Son menos inteligentes **que** yo.  
*They are less intelligent than I am.*

EXCEPTION:

“de” becomes “que” after a negative to express “only”. Compare the following sentences:

Tengo **más de** 2 camisas.  
I have more than 2 shirts.     *but:*

**No** tengo **más que** 2 camisas.  
I *only* have 2 shirts.

#### **MORE ADVANCED:**

Comparisons of inequality can be quite complex in Spanish: when the second term of comparison is a clause, **del / de la / de los / de las + que** is used, agreeing with the noun:

*Example:*     Tiene más dinero **del que** dice.  
*He has more money that he says.*

If there is no noun – or an adjective is used as a point of comparison – then **de lo que** is used:

*Examples:*     Tiene más **de lo que** dice.  
*He has more than he says.*

Es menos lista **de lo que** (él) cree.  
*She's not as bright as he thinks.*

#### 4. Use of “usted” (sing) and “ustedes” (plural)

Unlike French where the second person plural form “vous” can be used to express informal plural, formal plural AND formal singular forms of address, the formal form of address in Spanish is either singular “usted” (third person) or plural “ustedes” (third person):

Singular	Plural
Tú (informal)	Vosotros (informal) <sup>2</sup>
Usted (formal)	Ustedes (formal)

The formal forms are often abbreviated as “Vd” (singular) and “Vds” (plural) – derived from a shortening of an older form of address “vuestra merced”.

The formal subject pronoun (“usted” / “ustedes”) is often included if there is any chance of ambiguity, as of course the third person can also refer to “he”, “she” (singular) or “they” (plural); the informal subject pronouns are generally only added for emphasis.

#### **Consider the following examples:**

##### *INFORMAL SINGULAR*

¿Sabes dónde vive mi hermano? Do you know where my brother lives?  
¿Sabes **tú** donde vive mi hermano? Do **you** know where my brother lives?

##### *FORMAL SINGULAR*

¿Sabe (Vd.) donde vive mi hermano? Do you know where my brother lives?

##### *FORMAL PLURAL*

¿Sabén (Vds.) donde vive mi hermano? Do you know where my brother lives?

#### 5. Clothing

Spanish	English
El jersey / pulóver / suéter	Jumper
Los pantalones (cortos)	(Short) trousers
La camisa	Shirt
La camiseta	T-shirt
La blusa	Blouse
La falda	Skirt
Los zapatos	Shoes
Las zapatillas	Trainers; also slippers
El abrigo	Overcoat
La chaqueta	Jacket (formal style)
La cazadora (de cuero)	(Leather) jacket
Los calcetines	Socks
La corbata	Tie
Las botas	Boots
El traje	Suit
El traje de baño	Swim wear

<sup>2</sup> The use of “vosotros” applies to Peninsular Spanish; elsewhere “ustedes” may be used for both formal and informal forms of address.

## 6. Quantities and sizes

**Note the following formats carefully, especially agreements:**

<b>Spanish</b>	<b>English</b>
Medio kilo de	Half a kilo of
Un kilo de	A kilo of
Dos kilos de	Two kilos of
Tres kilos y medio de	Three and a half kilos of
Medio litro de	Half a litre of
Un litro de	A litre of
Media docena de	Half a dozen
Una docena de	A dozen
Medio paquete de	Half a packet of
Un paquete de	A packet of
Una talla (grande / mediana / pequeña)	Size (large / medium / small) <i>e.g. clothes</i>
Un tamaño (grande / mediano / pequeño)	Size (large / medium / small) <i>e.g. shoes</i>

JCW  
29 APR 2013